



November 2001

# Home Health Agency Update



North Dakota Department of Health  
Division of Health Facilities

Welcome to this edition of *Home Health Agency Update*. Administrators, please share this newsletter with your home health agency staff.

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## Inactivation of Private Pay OASIS Assessments By Lisa Badger, CMS

Several agencies have asked how they should correct assessments that were submitted masked, with M0150 marked Private Pay when the patient was actually receiving care under Medicare or Medicaid benefits.

If this happens, the masked assessment (Private Pay) should be inactivated from the system, and the correct assessment (M0150 marked 1, 2, 3, or 4, as appropriate) should be submitted to the database.

Due to problems in the encryption process, all masked assessments stored in the database were purged during the upgrade the first week of May. Therefore, inactivation of Private Pay assessments submitted before the last upgrade will not be necessary, or even possible. During the upgrade, the encryption process was revised. All masked assessments submitted since the upgrade will remain stored in the database.



## Internet Explorer Updates By Deb Jacobs, CMS

Internet Explorer (IE) Version 5.5 Service Pack 2 and IE Version 6.0 do not support Netscape plug-ins. QTSO does not advise using these two versions of Internet Explorer, as they do not support the required plug-ins for our reports.

If you have previously installed these versions of IE, the only option at this time is to load and use Netscape. When another solution is found, we will notify you.

Questions concerning these IE updates can be referred to the QTSO Help Desk at [mds\\_help@ifmc.org](mailto:mds_help@ifmc.org).

## Clarification of Homebound Status

By Laura Williams, CMS

A Program Memorandum issued Feb. 6, 2001, clarifies homebound eligibility requirements for Medicare patients. The amendment expands the list of reasons that the patient can leave the home and still be considered “homebound.”

It allows for regular absences for medical treatment, including therapeutic, psychosocial, treatment in an adult day care program that are licensed by the state, and any absence for religious services of an infrequent or short duration. However, this doesn’t imply that coverage has been expanded to include adult day-care services.



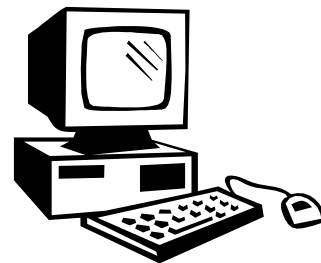
For more information about Program Memorandum A-01-21, please visit [www.hcfa.gov/pubforms/transmit/A0121.pdf](http://www.hcfa.gov/pubforms/transmit/A0121.pdf).

## HAVEN 5.1 Patch Includes Printing of Assessments

By Laura Williams, CMS

The HAVEN 5.1 patch includes the ability to print entire assessments with the click of a button, rather than having to print each page. The patch also addresses the following items:

- HAVEN did not report data entry errors for some required fields that were left blank.
- If a user created an assessment immediately after creating an inactivation record, HAVEN treated the new assessment as an inactivation.
- After exiting data entry, the patient list on the HAVEN Management screen did not contain all patients, just those listed alphabetically after the current patient.
- The recertification date window for a follow-up assessment was calculated incorrectly in Version 5.0 if an inactivation assessment existed for the patient.
- If an imported assessment was a replacement assessment for a previously inactivated assessment (already existing in the HAVEN database), HAVEN incorrectly reported a duplicate assessment.



For a complete list of the fixes and enhancements, you may review the release notes included with the patch. Look for HAVEN 5.1 on the CMS website at [www.hcfa.gov/medicaid/oasis/havensof.htm](http://www.hcfa.gov/medicaid/oasis/havensof.htm). The patch was posted on the state pages during the scheduled downtime on July 17.

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q:** Why is it that I am not able to import a corrected assessment into HAVEN after I have imported the original assessment and an inactivated assessment and both have locked (exported) status?

**A:** HAVEN does not recognize the inactivated assessment with a status of “99”; therefore, it reads the original and corrected assessment as the same assessment and will give a duplicate error message that will not allow import. The workaround for this is to create the corrected assessment in HAVEN and then export.

**Q:** I am attempting to do an inactivation of a record to correct the M0066 (Date of Birth field). When I submit the inactivation request, I receive a fatal error message: 1007 – no match found; however, I have a validation report that shows the assessment was submitted successfully.

**A:** If the incorrect date of birth (M0066) shows the patient as being less than 18 years of age, the record would have been deleted at the time of the latest upgrade between April 30, 2001, and May 4, 2001. In this instance, the original record with the corrected date of birth should be submitted if the patient is over 18.

For any records submitted after May 7, 2001, with a date of birth showing the patient as less than 18 years of age, the assessment will be rejected with a +266 fatal error: The required (M0066) birth date is less than 18 years in the past. The (M0066) birth date cannot be less than 18 years from the (M0090) date.

## CMS Diagnosis Coding for Medicare Home Health Under Prospective Payment System (PPS)

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has finalized the coding guidelines for home health agencies to use under PPS. A 28-page word file can be accessed on the CMS website at [www.hcfa.gov/medicare/hhmain.htm](http://www.hcfa.gov/medicare/hhmain.htm). The guidelines are found under Home Health Prospective Payment System Policy Issues and Regulations, and are titled:



“Correct Diagnosis Coding Practices” – September 16, 2001: Text Version and Adobe Acrobat PDR Version. Specific questions about this document can be addressed to the home health main website at: [hhc@hcfa.gov](mailto:hhc@hcfa.gov).

## OASIS, What's New

([www.hcfa.gov/medicaid/oasis/hhnew.htm](http://www.hcfa.gov/medicaid/oasis/hhnew.htm))

Please check this website often for timely OASIS-related announcements, corrections, and updates.

- Question and Answer 24 in Category 12, PPS/OASIS has been revised to reflect updated guidance concerning correction of

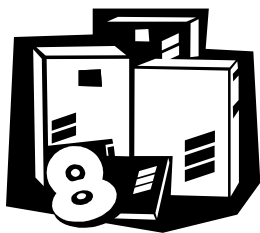
M0825 (therapy need) in certain situations. (Oct. 1, 2001)

- OASIS Questions and Answers Category 8 “JCAHO and ORYN” has been renamed “Accreditation” and a new Q&Q added. Q&A 31 in Category 11, “Comprehensive Assessment”, has been revised. (Sept. 10, 2001)

## OASIS Additional SSN and Medicare Edits

By M. Cox

Enhanced editing will be applied the last week of November to the State Systems for M0063\_Medicare\_Num and M0064\_SSN to ensure the submitted values are "valid values." Failure to meet the edits will result in Fatal Record Message, +213, Invalid data value. The applied edits are:



Edits for valid values for Medicare numbers have been tightened to the following:

- It must be alphanumeric or all spaces with no embedded dashes or spaces.
- If the first character is numeric, then the first nine characters must be digits (0-9).
- If the first character is a letter, then there must be one to three alphabetic characters followed by six or nine numbers followed by spaces up to the field length of 12.

Edits for valid values for Social Security numbers have been tightened to the following:

- Must be nine digits or nine spaces (blank).
- Cannot start with 000.
- There must be no embedded dashes or spaces.
- Cannot be 111111111, 333333333, 999999999, or 123456789.

## HAVEN CD Version 5.1 Now Available

An updated HAVEN computer-based training CD based on HAVEN Version 5.1 is now available. This CD provides step-by-step instructions for using the different functions within the HAVEN software. The training topics include HAVEN Overview, Maintain Agency Database, Maintain Employee Database, Maintain Patient Database, Select/Add an Assessment, Correction to an Assessment,

Export/Import, HIPPS Code Information, View/Print Reports, Repair and Compact, Archive and Restore and Backup Information.

This training tool provides the user with a visual demonstration of the software, as well as a verbal explanation of each step being demonstrated. A hardcopy manual also is provided to the user with information specific to each topic and is used in conjunc-

tion with the CD. The topics are broken down into segments for easy viewing. Users can view selected topics and can review topics again as needed.

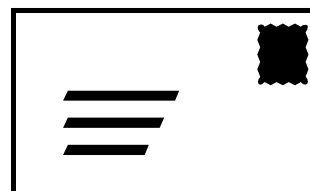
To order a HAVEN computer-based training CD and manual, contact the HAVEN Help Desk at 877.201.4721 or visit [www.qtsso.com](http://www.qtsso.com).

## New QTSO Address

Effective Sept. 24, 2001, the QIES Technical Support Website address was changed to [www.qtsso.com](http://www.qtsso.com).

The QTSO website recently has been revamped – if you have not viewed our new look yet, you might want to check it out.

The site contains information on MDS, RAVEN, OASIS, HAVEN, CMS Links, State Information, Contractor Information, CMS Regional and Central Office Information, Vendor Information, Educational Information, and Online Training assistance.



# New OASIS Messages for Fall

By Mary Cox, CMS

The next OASIS Release is scheduled for the last week of November 2001. This release includes several changes and additions to the OASIS edits and messages. These changes are outlined below.

- The following messages have had the text modified:

- +184 – Inconsistent M0855/M0900 values: If M0855 response 3 is checked, at least one item from M0900 must be checked. Also, all items in M0900 that are unchecked must be submitted as 0 (zero).

- +143 – Inconsistent M0100/M0200/M0900 values: If M0100 = 09 and M0200 “Yes” is checked, then at least one from M0220 must be checked. Also, all items in M0220 that are unchecked must be submitted as 0 (zero).

- +182 – Inconsistent M0895/M0855 values: At least one M0895 response must be checked if M0855 response 1 is checked. Also, all items in M0895 that are unchecked must be submitted as 0 (zero).

- +152 – Inconsistent M0240: The submitted data in M0240 (ICD9, Severity Rating) is not consistent. If ICD9 is blank, Severity Rating must be unchecked. If ICD9 is not blank, then, Severity Rating must be checked.

- A new warning message, +82, will identify a change in providers. Previously, warning message +81 indicated provider changes. The new message will read, “Patient provider updated: This patient was previously cared for by the ‘prior’ provider identified above.” When this message occurs, the “Invalid Data Submitted” line on the Final Validation Report will identify the prior and current Fac\_IDs rather than the prior and current Internal Facility IDs.

- Error message +233 is replaced in editing by error message +213. Error message +233 is inactivated.

- Message +152 will occur for the edit: “If M0240 ICD9 is blank, then, M0240 Severity Rating must be unchecked.”

- In addition to enhancing the edit, the text was changed for message +176 as

follows:

- +176 – Inconsistent M0100/M0855-M0880 values: If M0100=09, M0855=NA and M0870=01, then at least one item from M0880 must be checked. All items in M0880 that are unchecked must be submitted as 0 (zero).

- The following new edits and fatal record messages will occur:

- If M0440\_LESION\_OPEN\_WND = 1, then, M0445\_PRESS\_ULCER may not be blank.

- \*\*Message is: +269 – Inconsistent M0440/M0445 values: If M0440 is checked yes, then, M0445 cannot be blank.

- If M0440\_LESION\_OPEN\_WND = 1, then, M0468\_STASIS\_ULCER may not be blank.

- \*\*Message is: +270 – Inconsistent M0440/M0468 values: If M0440 is checked yes, then, M0468 cannot be blank.

- If M0440\_LESION\_OPEN\_WND = 1, then, M0482\_SURG\_WOUND may not be blank.

- \*\*Message is: +272 – Inconsistent M0440/M0482 values: If M0440 is checked yes, then, M0482 cannot be blank.

- If M0468\_STASIS\_ULCER = 1, then, none of the items from M0470\_NBR\_STAULC thru M0476\_STAT\_PRB\_STAULC may be blank.

- \*\*Message is: +271 – Inconsistent M0468/M0470-M0476 values: If M0468 is checked yes, then, M0470 thru M0476 cannot be blank.

- If M0482\_SURG\_WOUND = 1, then, none of the items from M0484\_NBR\_SURGWND thru M0488\_STAT\_PRB\_SRGWND may be blank.

- \*\*Message is: +273 – Inconsistent M0482-M0488 values: If M0482 is checked yes, then, M0484 thru M0488 cannot be blank.

If M0100\_ASSMT\_REASON = 01,

02, 03, 04, or 05, then, at least one item from M0220\_PRIOR\_UR\_INCON thru M0220\_PRIOR\_UNKNOWN must be equal to 1, and none of the items from M0220\_PRIOR\_UR\_INCON thru M0220\_PRIOR\_UNKNOWN may be blank.



- \*\*Message is +274 – Inconsistent M0100/M0220 values: If M0100 = 01, 02, 03, 04, or 05, at least one item from M0220 must be checked. Also, all items in M0220 that are unchecked must be submitted as 0 (zero).

- If M0520\_UR\_INCONT = 01, then, M0530\_UR\_INCT\_OCCURS must not be blank.

- \*\*Message is: +275 – Inconsistent M0520/M0530 values: If M0520 is checked yes, then, M0530 cannot be blank.

- If M0100\_ASSMT\_REASON = 04, 05, 06, 07, or 09, and M0830 item is 1, 2, or 3, then, at least one item from M0840\_ECR\_MEDICATION thru M0840\_ECR\_UNKNOWN must be equal to 1, and none of the items from M0840\_ECR\_MEDICATION thru M0840\_ECR\_UNKNOWN may be blank.

- \*\*Message is: +276 – Inconsistent M0100/M0830/M0840 values: If M0100=04, 05, 06, 07, or 09 and M0830 item 1, 2, or 3 is checked, at least one M0840 item must be checked. Unchecked M0840 items must be submitted as 0 (zero).



### **Reminder**

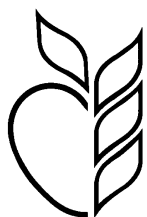
The state server is down the third Tuesday of each month from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. Central Standard Time. You will not be able to transmit data or access OBQM reports during this time.

### **New Home Health Agency Survey Staff**

Lucille Torpen, RN, and Linda Maher, RN, both Health Facilities Surveyors, have joined the state agency home health survey team.

### **Change in E-Mail Address**

If your home health agency e-mail address changes, please notify Cheryl Stockert at [cstocker@state.nd.us](mailto:cstocker@state.nd.us). Our goal is to maintain an up-to-date home health agency e-mail distribution list.



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**The Home Health Team of  
Debbie, Toni, David, Lucille, Linda and Carole wish  
each of you a Blessed and Happy Holiday Season.**

### **Be Thankful**

~Be thankful that you don't already have everything you desire. If you did, what would there be to look forward to?

~Be thankful when you don't know something, for it gives you the opportunity to learn.

~Be thankful for the difficult times. During those times you grow.

~Be thankful for your limitations, because they give you opportunities for improvement.

~Be thankful for each new challenge, because it will build your strength and character.

~Be thankful for your mistakes. They will teach you valuable lessons.

~Be thankful when you're tired and weary, because it means you've made a difference.

~It's easy to be thankful for the good things.

~A life of rich fulfillment comes to those who are also thankful for the setbacks.

~Gratitude can turn a negative into a positive.

~Find a way to be thankful for your troubles, and they can become your blessings.

~Author Unknown~

